

**SEWARD PENINSULA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING**

October 16, 1997
Nome Eskimo Community Center
Nome, Alaska

VOLUME II

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Theodore Katcheak, Chairman
Ms. Grace Cross
Mr. Fred A. Katchatag, Sr.
Mr. Elmer K. Seetot, Jr.
Mr. Peter G. Buck
Mr. Perry T. Mendenhall

Regional Council Coordinator:

Mr. Cliff Edenshaw

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I'll call the meeting to order at
4 9:35. I'd like to welcome the Council members and our guests
5 and Staff. We'll start from where we left off yesterday. The
6 agency proposals -- are we done with the agency proposals?
7 Next item is bear management. Did we cover that yesterday,
8 bear management?

9

10 MR. MENDENHALL: We backed up Kawerak's bear proposal
11 already.

12

13 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Okay. So we'll go on to the next
14 item which is the family as defined in ANILCA and it's under
15 Tab F. I don't know who's going to cover that. Mr. Edenshaw.

16

17 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, we covered that yesterday
18 also.

19

20 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Okay.

21

22 MR. EDENSHAW: So we were on number three on update.

23

24 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Okay.

25

26 MR. EDENSHAW: And Rosa Meehan, Staff from our office
27 will give the overview.

28

29 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: All right. Implementation Federal
30 Subsistence fishery management.

31

32 MS. MEEHAN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Council. Rosa
33 Meehan from the Office of Subsistence Management. What I can
34 share with you today is how much we don't know about what's
35 going to happen with fisheries. For some written information,
36 you may want to refer to later, under Tab E in your book, there
37 is the response from the Federal Board back to the Council
38 about the annual report. And on Page 2 of that, under number
39 five, which is about halfway down the page, there is a response
40 to a question the Council had about fisheries management. And
41 that response has some of the background information on where
42 we are today.

43

44 Just to highlight those points, you may recall last
45 winter, we brought to the Council a draft proposed rule that
46 would be -- that was the basis for implementing Federal
47 fisheries management. That was very much at a draft stage.
48 Since that time we have completed an environmental assessment
49 and we have a proposed rule that is essentially ready to be

50 submitted to the Federal Register. And once a proposed rule is

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1 submitted to the Federal Register it starts a public process
2 that would begin the Federal management in fisheries, it begins
3 that process.

4
5 What has happened in very recent, in the last month or
6 so is that the Congressional delegation has extended the
7 moratorium in the budget language and that was the provision
8 that has, until now, prevented the Federal government from
9 following through on the court order. So right now we still
10 have a moratorium to actually implementing fisheries
11 management. The purpose of that moratorium, as explained by
12 the Congressional offices, is to give the State time to resume
13 management of fish and game. These are all actions that are
14 being handled at a much higher level, different location than
15 we are, but they are actions that are affecting us, us, in our
16 ability to follow through on the court order and certainly on
17 actions of you, as a Council. The moratorium is scheduled to
18 be in place until December 1988, and the purpose is to give the
19 State time to follow through on their part of the Governor's
20 proposal to resolve the subsistence dilemma. And there's
21 copies of the Governor's proposal, I think, with the
22 information we brought, on the table and I would refer you to
23 that for specific details on the Governor's proposal.

24
25 Basically where we're at is, from the Federal
26 perspective, is that we are in a holding pattern until the
27 moratorium is either lifted or until the State meets their part
28 of the Governor's proposal. So the fisheries management aspect
29 is on hold for right now. The part of the program that we're
30 working on now, the wildlife portion, will continue to operate
31 as we are. And so we will -- you know, we've gone through this
32 meeting pretty much, we will have the winter meeting with the
33 Councils, the spring meeting with the Board; this part of the
34 program will continue as we're doing it and we'll just wait on
35 the fisheries until the rest of these events play out.

36
37 If you have any questions I'd be glad to answer them
38 and I'll let you know where it's merely speculation.

39
40 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Any questions from the Council for
41 Rose?

42
43 MR. MENDENHALL: Do you have any reason as to why Ted
44 Stevens did what he did?

45
46 MS. MEEHAN: Frankly I was on the same side of the door
47 as you all are with these negotiations going on, and I don't.
48 What I can explain is what the results of the actions are and
49 how we have to respond to them. But I'm afraid to start

50 speculating or thinking like a politician. I mean I don't

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1 know.

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL: We're in a political State anyway
4 because of him, so.....

5

6 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah, it absolutely is politics. The
7 things that may happen, but we don't know, the strict
8 interpretation of the moratorium language does not not preclude
9 publishing a proposed rule. What the moratorium says is that
10 the Federal government cannot implement the program, and
11 implement means to publish a final rule and start holding
12 meetings to talk about fish and talk about regulation change.
13 That's what implement is. But we could do those first steps.
14 If that happens, what you, as a Council, would see is a copy of
15 the proposed rule in the Federal Register and we would mail it
16 out to you and that would be followed by public hearings
17 throughout the State to gather comments on that proposed rule.
18 The proposed rule that you would see is very much like the one
19 we shared with you at the last winter meeting. So we would go
20 through that first public process stage. But we can't publish
21 a final rule or actually implement the program until the
22 moratorium is done. And it's not clear right now whether a
23 proposed rule would be published or not, so I don't know, but
24 that's a possibility. You would be notified and given -- and
25 consulted on where and when to hold public hearings out in this
26 region and there would definitely be public hearings out here.
27 And there's every intention to involve the Council's in the
28 public hearing process.

29

30 MS. CROSS: Is there a reason why those rules cannot be
31 implemented?

32

33 MS. MEEHAN: The moratorium specifically prohibits
34 implementing the rule.

35

36 MS. CROSS: I mean proposed rule, isn't there a reason
37 why that can't be started? It's another political thing then?

38

39 MS. MEEHAN: It's another political deal and it's one
40 that we're not -- we're not involved in the decision on that or
41 not. We're just reacting to what somebody tells us.

42

43 MS. CROSS: Okay.

44

45 MR. KATCHATAG SR: I, as a member of the present
46 Council go along with this moratorium until 1998, you say?

47

48 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

49

MR. KATCHATAG SR: I'm in favor of this, I don't know

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1 about the rest of you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you, Rose.

4

5 MS. MEEHAN: Sure.

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I don't think we have any
8 questions.

9

10 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah, if anybody has further questions or
11 if you think of questions tomorrow or the next day or whatever,
12 please, feel free to call the office. You can ask for me or
13 Tom Boyd and call us on the 800 number, we'd be glad to go over
14 the material because I know it's not a straightforward story.
15 But, please, feel free to call and ask me later.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you. Next item, Regional
18 Council charter, Tab G.

19

20 MS. CROSS: We went over it.

21

22 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I'm sorry.

23

24 MS. CROSS: Changed -- number four.

25

26 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Did we table that or delete that?

27

28 MS. CROSS: No, I don't think so.

29

30 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Okay. We don't have any new
31 Council right now or do we.....

32

33 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Mendenhall.

34

35 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Oh, Perry, okay. Shall we go
36 ahead.....

37

38 MR. EDENSHAW: I need to go over this anyway, Mr.
39 Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK:and go over.....

42

43 MR. EDENSHAW: Excuse me.

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Edenshaw.

46

47 MR. EDENSHAW: First of all, I just want to ask, did
48 all of the Council members, when we sent out your booklets, did
49 you receive the orientation and the overview of the Federal

50 subsistence management program.

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

2
3 MR. EDENSHAW: I think, Perry, if you look over at
4 Elmer's big, big binder over there, a couple of years ago that
5 was -- we usually have these big thicker ones. So this past
6 year in Anchorage, some of the Staff members and the Division
7 of Planning and Public Involvement, we met in Anchorage with
8 some of the Council members and discussed revamping the
9 training booklet for new Council members. And at that meeting
10 Fred Armstrong, Roy Ewan from the Southcentral and Fred's --
11 who's no longer with the Northwest was part of this group.
12 Craig Fleener was on teleconference and he represents, I
13 believe, the Eastern Interior Regional Council. Fritz George.
14 Robert Heyano. Melvin Smith, new Council member from the
15 Kodiak/Aleutians. And the Chair from Southeast, Bill Thomas.
16 I think if you go through this manual in here, Perry, and for
17 the other Council members, I think what I want to stress is
18 before the meeting in February, we've included inside your
19 booklets an evaluation form. And if each of you have the time
20 to review this booklet, this one here, at the February meeting
21 -- the winter meeting, this will be finalized. So if you have
22 an opportunity to review this booklet -- and this small one
23 here is very -- I've had comments from the Kodiak meeting when
24 I was there that this small booklet provided a wealth of
25 information in regards to the program and.....

26
27 MR. MENDENHALL: Do we get to go to Kodiak to be
28 trained?

29
30 MR. EDENSHAW: No. But this booklet here, this thin
31 one, Perry, and the other Council members, who may even have
32 questions in regards to ANILCA and how the program is run, this
33 provides some very good information in there.

34
35 Some other points, in the back, I'm not sure for this
36 region or not, this -- the manual had, especially if you look
37 at the table of contents, actually eight sections in there, but
38 I think the important ones were, number two, the Council duties
39 for a new Council member and three, and I think Helen touched
40 upon number four yesterday on call for proposals, and how you
41 change regulations. You could actually go into, I guess,
42 seasons and bag limits and some C&T's, cultural and traditional
43 determination uses. And number five, they actually go into
44 some important contacts and those were some of the contacts
45 here in the region with Kawerak and some of the IRA's, and of
46 course, I think some of the other boroughs and municipalities.
47 But I think one thing I just want to stress is if you have an
48 opportunity, because as I said, this will be final in February
49 when the Council meets in February to please fill out this

50 evaluation form and if you don't have one, please let me know.

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1 Because I do know that when we mailed out your Council booklets
2 we included this information in those booklets and the
3 evaluation forms. So this is in draft version and it will be
4 finalized before February. And if you've had time to review
5 that prior to the meeting, if you had any questions I'd be glad
6 to answer any of those.

7
8 MS. CROSS: I was thinking there were two groups,
9 because I had one for orientation materials.

10
11 MR. EDENSHAW: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

12
13 MS. CROSS: There was nothing for the manual.

14
15 MR. EDENSHAW: May I see that one there?

16
17 MS. CROSS: This is what I got.

18
19 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah, this one here. They're the same.
20 This one here was just a two page, two-sided, they're quite
21 simply the same.

22
23 MS. CROSS: The same thing?

24
25 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah.

26
27 MS. CROSS: The questions are the same?

28
29 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

30
31 MS. CROSS: Okay.

32
33 MR. EDENSHAW: And, Grace, when you came on last year,
34 they sent you those big thick booklets, didn't they?

35
36 MS. CROSS: Yeah.

37
38 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah.

39
40 MS. CROSS: It was kind of a nightmare.

41
42 MR. EDENSHAW: So this is -- I think, as we receive
43 some of the comments, at least when I was in Kodiak with the
44 new Council members there.....

45
46 MS. CROSS: It's very easy reading.

47
48 MR. EDENSHAW:was it's much more user friendly.
49 And I think in terms of the input we received from the Council

50 members who came into Anchorage for that meeting have

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1 simplified the learning process in terms of what the Councils
2 do and the information exchange between the Councils and the
3 Board is explained very clearly.

4
5 MS. CROSS: Very informative and easy reading.

6
7 MR. SEETOT: So this manual would replace all the --
8 not replace, but take the place of these.....

9
10 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

11
12 MR. SEETOT:ones contained in the binder?

13
14 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes, that's correct, Elmer. We're not
15 going to mail those big things out anymore.

16
17 MS. CROSS: And you'll take all the typos out of it?

18
19 MR. EDENSHAW: So if there are not any questions, that
20 completes.....

21
22 MR. SEETOT: So you don't need the evaluation sheets
23 until we go to.....

24
25 MR. EDENSHAW: Correct.

26
27 MR. SEETOT: Okay.

28
29 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Any questions, Mr. Mendenhall or
30 Council? Do you have anything else you want to add?

31
32 MR. EDENSHAW: No.

33
34 MS. CROSS: I have a question, please.

35
36 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Okay, Grace.

37
38 MS. CROSS: You want these sent to you before February?

39
40 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes. Hopefully even before then,
41 because when the Councils -- and I'm not sure on the calendar
42 here when the first Council meeting's going to be held in the
43 winter meetings in February, but, you know, they need to
44 immediately -- about six weeks, because when they send the
45 books to the printing -- so hopefully if you can get them done
46 before December or as soon as possible and just mail them to us
47 in our office in Anchorage, that would be better.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: If there isn't any other discussion

50 I'd like to go on to the next item; Regional Council charter.

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1 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, if you look under Tab G.
2 This is the renewal of the Regional Council charters. And
3 these -- the charter is renewed every two years and so 1998,
4 which is just around the corner, this charter will be renewed.
5 And if you look on the next page, under there there's the
6 Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council charter.

7
8 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Excuse me, what tab are we on?

9
10 MR. EDENSHAW: G, Fred.

11
12 MR. KATCHATAG SR: D?

13
14 MR. EDENSHAW: G.

15
16 MR. MENDENHALL: G.

17
18 MR. EDENSHAW: G as in go.

19
20 MR. KATCHATAG SR: E?

21
22 MR. MENDENHALL: G.

23
24 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Oh, G. I need to go slower, I guess.

25
26 MR. MENDENHALL: Do you need any comments to -- from
27 the public on this charter?

28
29 MR. EDENSHAW: That's correct. I think what I'd like
30 to do, Mr. Chair, is also, I think include -- inside our -- I
31 think if we go back to -- I think if you follow right after
32 your Regional Council charter, there was an update on
33 alternates.

34
35 MS. CROSS: Where at?

36
37 MR. EDENSHAW: Right after the Regional Council
38 charters, so I think I want to -- I think because -- you said
39 your Regional Council charter, there wasn't anything in regards
40 to alternates. And when the Council met last year in Nome, we
41 started bringing up alternates. And I believe when we met in
42 Unalakleet it was just touched upon briefly. But if you look
43 on the page following your Regional Council charters, there's a
44 small table there and it's an update on alternates to serve on
45 the Regional Councils. Because if you're going to -- if the
46 Council -- the Seward Penn had recommended two alternates, one
47 for Units 22(A) and (B) and one from Unit 22(D) and (E). And
48 so come 1998, the charters are up for renewal and if the
49 Council wishes to have any changes in the charter, they could

50 recommend to the Board that they would like, inclusion of

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1 alternates in your Regional Council charter. And you can see
2 from on the table, the other nine regions, how they felt about
3 alternates. Southeast said alternates are not needed. Their
4 Regional Council member attendance is good. Region 2,
5 Southcentral, they're not needed also, they stated that the
6 member attendance is also good. Region 3, the
7 Kodiak/Aleutians, they wanted one from Kodiak and one from the
8 Aleutian Pribilofs. Bristol Bay, they said they're not needed,
9 Regional Advisory Council member attendance is good also.
10 Region 5, Yukon-Kuskokwim, they wished to have two alternates
11 at-large. Region 6, the Western Interior, they recommended two
12 alternates. Seven, of course, the Seward Penn region, they
13 wanted one, as I stated, one from 22(A) and (B) and one from
14 (D) and (E). Region 8, the Northwest Arctic or Northwest
15 region, they said alternates are not needed. Nine, the Eastern
16 Interior, they recommended alternates for every RAC member.
17 And 10, the North Slope, discussion with no action taken. So I
18 think, in lieu, of the charter renewal in 1998, that's
19 something that the Council could recommend, saying we would
20 like the inclusion of alternates, but the Board is going to
21 take up the alternates because I can't recall which Council it
22 was, but they had requested like a shadow Council, and I think
23 it was this Eastern Interior. They're the Council that had
24 brought up the topic of alternates.

25
26 MS. CROSS: May I ask a question, please.....

27
28 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

29
30 MS. CROSS:Mr. Chair?

31
32 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Yes, Grace.

33
34 MS. CROSS: In regards to alternates, will each region
35 be looked at separately, based on the need and reasons given?
36 Because if they're -- the Federal Subsistence Board's going to
37 make a collective decision, when there's various reasons for
38 each region to ask for alternates -- there's some regions that
39 don't need it, but there's some regions that don't (sic), and
40 one of the concerns -- one of the reasons why we asked for
41 alternates is because of the various things that area happening
42 in our region, subsistence wise. Is each request going to be
43 looked at separately or is the Board going to look at it as a
44 whole? I didn't make myself clear?

45
46 MR. EDENSHAW: No, you did. I was just -- I think in
47 the discussions there we have had -- I recall last year, some
48 of the Councils when they requested that their Councils
49 increase in the number of Council members who serve, like for

50 instance, the Kodiak/Aleutians had seven at one time and now

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1 they have nine. So I think in lieu of when they increase
2 membership on some of the Councils, I would feel that they
3 would look at it on a case by case basis.

4
5 MS. CROSS: Okay.

6
7 MR. EDENSHAW: But at the same time, I feel if the
8 Regional Council, just as a they stated at the other meetings,
9 that they would like alternates, then I feel that if the
10 Regional Council addresses that in their charter because those
11 are renewed every two years, then that would be by a case by
12 case basis.

13
14 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Helen.

15
16 MS. ARMSTRONG: Can I just maybe make a clarification?

17
18 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Yes.

19
20 MS. ARMSTRONG: And if I don't get this quite right,
21 Ida and Rosa can correct me. But the Board will look at all of
22 the Councils, collectively, but it's up to the Council to
23 decide where those alternates come from. And for example, when
24 I was in Barrow, they -- because their meetings are always in
25 Barrow and we had experienced at that particular meeting, it
26 just so happened, that there were -- you know, one person was
27 sick, one person was hunting -- everybody had a different
28 reason, but we didn't have a quorum so everybody sat around for
29 a day waiting until the sick person could come to the meeting.
30 They decided to have their alternates come from Barrow just so
31 that they wouldn't have that situation again, and it would be
32 people who were familiar with subsistence issues. I mean
33 that's the way they chose to deal with it. You may choose to
34 deal with it a different way. But there will be times when you
35 might have a quorum, so it might be advantageous to have
36 alternates to call upon to come to the meeting so you can have
37 a quorum and be able to meet. Did I get that right? Okay. So
38 what you need to decide is where you want those alternates to
39 come from.

40
41 MR. MENDENHALL: This is Perry.

42
43 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you, Ms. Armstrong.

44
45 MR. MENDENHALL: I recommend that we probably have
46 alternate -- one alternate from (A), (B), (D) and (E), and one
47 at-large, for the purpose of attaining the quorum. That would
48 be my recommendation. Because we waited yesterday and tried to
49 figure out who was coming from where.

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1 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you, Mr. Mendenhall. Any
2 other suggestions or recommendations from the Council?

3
4 MR. KATCHATAG SR: I think a Council member from each
5 IRA should have an alternate. That would be the easiest way.
6 I was appointed to this Board by recommendations from
7 Unalakleet IRA Council, and I think I should have an alternate
8 from Unalakleet. We need to have an alternate to -- because we
9 meet only twice a year, and we should have -- if we are a nine
10 member or a seven member board, they should have an alternate
11 -- each Council member to the Federal Subsistence Board should
12 have an alternate. It's kind of -- it's rather hard to make
13 decisions with two members missing from the Council. And if
14 we're going to have close communication to the members of the
15 Federal Subsistence Board, we need to have an alternate.

16
17 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: So my understanding is we will have
18 alternates and then Mr. Mendenhall's recommendation that we get
19 one from (A), (B) and (E). Looking at the other Regional
20 Councils, I'm inclined to say that we have alternates for every
21 Council member, it would be -- is there any problem changing
22 that two alternates to one for each Council members? Is there
23 any problem with that if the Council feels that there's a need
24 for that?

25
26 MS. CROSS: I think that when we discussed it last year
27 we came to the conclusion we need two people representing (A)
28 and (B) -- one person representing (A) and (B) and another
29 person representing (D) and (E). (C) was excluded because we
30 didn't have any Federal lands. I think it would kind of solve
31 like Joe Garnie not being here, somebody from -- an alternate
32 would take care of -- that's my feeling. But you were also
33 discussing about a member at-large. Can you go a little bit
34 further into that?

35
36 MR. MENDENHALL: It would cover (A), (B) (D) and (E),
37 and then one at-large. It's for the purpose of quorum sake,
38 you know, to conduct business. I don't think there's any
39 politics involved with this, you know, so.....

40
41 MS. CROSS: No, there isn't.

42
43 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Do you make that motion, Mr.
44 Mendenhall?

45
46 MS. CROSS: So we'll change our recommendation to two
47 alternates and one at-large; do we want to do that?

48
49 MR. MENDENHALL: Which one would be at-large?

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1 MS. CROSS: Pardon?

2

3 MR. MENDENHALL: Which one will be at-large?

4

5 MS. CROSS: Two of them and one of them -- still two
6 people and one of them is at-large, okay.

7

8 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah.

9

10 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: And would these recommendations
11 come from the tribal councils or how do we do that?

12

13 MS. CROSS: I have a question. Who would select these
14 people, the alternates?

15

16 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: That would be Regional Council --
17 or I mean Regional Board -- or subsistence board or who is
18 that, the Secretary of Interior?

19

20 MR. EDENSHAW: On your original proposal, the Regional
21 Council requested one representative from Unit 22(A) or (B).
22 So if you look at 22(A) and (B) and the communities there, the
23 alternates would be selected through -- you know, each -- at
24 the beginning of each year we go through a recruitment process
25 when we have nominations. And once, you know, this is merely
26 speculation on my part from going through the nominations, but
27 we come through -- just as last year we had an alternate that
28 was brought up in the nominations process in the event of an
29 individual turning down -- at the last minute deciding they
30 didn't -- they choose not to serve on the Regional Advisory
31 Council, so I'm assuming the alternates would be chosen in that
32 very manner, but just as the Regional Council had supported
33 last year, one representative from the southern portion of the
34 Seward Penn and one from the northern region, so that would
35 have to be ironed out. I'm sure Rosa has something else
36 to.....

37

38 MS. MEEHAN: Cliff has it quite correct. It would --
39 the selection of the alternates would be done in the same way
40 that Council seats are filled. And so it would be the same
41 nomination process and the Council is certainly free to make
42 nominations, free to contact people that you know and respect
43 and would like to have -- you know, be involved. But it goes
44 through exactly the same nomination process, the same screening
45 process, with the final decision being made by the Secretary of
46 Interior.

47

48 MS. CROSS: For the same terms, too?

49

MS. MEEHAN: For the same terms, as well. But just

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1 like Cliff said, the Council's recommendation on having a
2 representative from -- one from the northern part of the region
3 and one from the southern part would be taken into the
4 selection process.

5
6 MS. CROSS: Okay.

7
8 MR. KATCHATAG SR: I know the Secretary of Interior
9 would have the final say, so maybe if we just bring this out
10 and have it in our agenda for our next meeting, then we can do
11 the business to finalize this alternate question in our next
12 meeting.

13
14 MS. CROSS: This is something that the Federal Board is
15 going to consider in their next meeting though, is it?

16
17 MS. MEEHAN: Yes.

18
19 MS. CROSS: It's something -- would it make sense for
20 us to make recommendations within the near future?

21
22 MS. MEEHAN: The recommendations for people are best
23 made in the beginning of next year when we start the
24 nominations process. What we need from you today is your
25 recommendation on how you would like the alternates -- what
26 you've just done, where you would like the alternates from?
27 The representation.....

28
29 MS. CROSS: How you want them selected?

30
31 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah, how you want them selected. That's
32 what we need now to put into the charters. In terms of
33 selecting people, making recommendations about that, that
34 process starts next January.

35
36 MS. CROSS: So you think this is going to come into
37 being?

38
39 MS. MEEHAN: My feeling is yes because we've had
40 sufficient -- and this is just Rosa, sharing with you my
41 observations, but we've had sufficient times where we've not
42 had a quorum and it's -- I mean as you can imagine, to bring
43 all these people here and bring all you guys in, it's quite a
44 lot of money not to be able to run the meeting, and so it's
45 very important to get enough people here so that we can all do
46 our business, just to be respectful of everybody's time. So my
47 guess is we will have alternates.

48
49 MS. CROSS: So the Federal Board will decide how many

50 alternates they need or are they still going to take it region

0129

1 by region?

2

3 MS. MEEHAN: I don't know if the Board will go for
4 regional variation. The tendency in a program as large as this
5 is to make -- try and be consistent across regions.

6

7 MS. CROSS: Collective?

8

9 MS. MEEHAN: And -- you know, so my feeling is it would
10 be, either, it's like yes alternates or no alternates and then
11 two alternates or the extreme was, Eastern Interior, asked for
12 one alternate for every member. And so they'll make it sort of
13 a step wise decision. Do we want alternates? If the answer is
14 yes, then how many alternates? And this is where the
15 recommendation from you all, as a Council, is very important.
16 Will alternates help you make sure you can have a quorum, and
17 how do you want those alternates to represent the region, which
18 you've said, you know, one from the north and one from the
19 south, essentially. Or the proposal, I guess, on the table is
20 to have one at-large. And just to comment on that, remember
21 that each Council member, all of you represent the entire
22 region, just due to where you come from, of course, you'd have
23 greater knowledge and expertise in particular areas. But in a
24 sense, by definition, you are all at-large.

25

26 MS. CROSS: Okay.

27

28 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Having understood the situation, I
29 feel comfortable with the way it's written.

30

31 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Why can't use our quorum reader to
32 make a deal with the Secretary Interior? He's a paid man.
33 He's got a phone. He's got all the avenues in the world to
34 contact our Secretary of Interior.

35

36 MR. SEETOT: Question. Which of our Regional Advisory
37 Council be in place when and if the people of the State of
38 Alaska voted for State management of fish and game? The
39 Governor's task proposal that there would be regional councils
40 -- six regional councils or that was proposed that there would
41 be some regional councils appointed by tribal, Federal
42 organizations and -- in -- you know, along with other
43 conditions. And then my question is, would this Regional
44 Advisory Council and other Regional Advisory Councils be in
45 place when and if the people of the State did vote for State
46 management?

47

48 MS. MEEHAN: I wish I had the answer to that. And I
49 don't know, and from what I have read from the Governor's

50 proposal, the details are not clear on exactly how the State

0130

1 would do it, and I welcome anybody from the State coming
2 forward at this point. One part that is a clear theme in the
3 Governor's proposal is a recognition of the importance of the
4 Regional Advisory Councils within the Federal program, and a
5 commitment to adopt something similar in the State program.
6 But exactly what they would adopt is not clear.

7
8 MR. SANDERS: You know as much as I do, Rosa.

9
10 MS. MEEHAN: I wish I could give you a more complete
11 answer, but frankly, the details are not there in the
12 Governor's proposal, and so I don't know and I can't tell you
13 from reading that proposal. And that proposal's the only thing
14 that we have to go on.

15
16 MS. CROSS: Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Grace.

19
20 MS. CROSS: Let's get back to our alternate.
21 Personally I believe that we should stick with what we
22 originally proposed; two alternates. One from 22(A) and 22(B)
23 and one from 22(D) and 22(E).

24
25 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Does the Council agree with that?

26
27 MR. KATCHATAG SR: I agree with that.

28
29 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, may I make a comment in
30 regards to Grace. Yeah, the charter, it wouldn't be one from
31 (A) and one from (B), it would be one from one of those two
32 units -- subunits.

33
34 MS. CROSS: That's what I mean.

35
36 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. One from one of those subunits,
37 not one from each one.

38
39 MS. CROSS: I'm talking about two people.....

40
41 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay.

42
43 MS. CROSS:not four.

44
45 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I got a question as to the tribal
46 council send us a recommendation and then we recommend that to
47 the.....

48
49 MS. CROSS: Secretary of the Interior.

0131

1 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK:Subsistence Board and the
2 Subsistence Board will recommend that to the Secretary of the
3 Interior or.....

4
5 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, if the tribal IRA or regional
6 or village corporation sent in a letter of recommendation for
7 an alternate or even for just a Council member, once we start
8 recruitment process in June for the upcoming -- when terms
9 expire in 1998, those would be taken into consideration with
10 the person's applications when we do the recruitment period.

11
12 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: So then the Council can direct you
13 to contact the effected tribal councils and send their
14 recommendation?

15
16 MR. EDENSHAW: Correct.

17
18 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you.

19
20 MR. EDENSHAW: They may.

21
22 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: The Chair will recognize this
23 gentleman.

24
25 MR. SANDERS: I didn't have a whole lot to add to what
26 Rosa said on your earlier question and I just wanted you to
27 know that I wasn't intentionally trying to be vague on your
28 question as to how the State would respond with regional
29 councils. I think Rosa summarized it very well.

30
31 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Excuse me, could you state your
32 name, please, for the record.

33
34 MR. SANDERS: Gary Sanders, with the Alaska Department
35 of Fish and Game. Really there are only about two people in
36 our Department who have been involved in developing the State
37 solution and that's our deputy commissioner Rob Bosworth and
38 the director of subsistence, Mary Peat. And they really are
39 the only ones that have any real insight into this. About all
40 I can do is reiterate what Rosa said and that is, at this point
41 the State does recognize that the Regional Councils would be
42 incorporated into whatever system we end up with, and that
43 whole package has now moved on to the legislature. So it's in
44 their hands at this point, comments should probably be
45 addressed to your legislators.

46
47 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I have a question that the State
48 does come up with their final decision, I'm wondering if the
49 Regional Councils will be dissolved or will they still continue

50 as they are? Continue to be funded by the Congress to manage

0132

1 subsistence?

2

3 MS. MEEHAN: I'm in the same position I was before on
4 trying to answer this. The one thing that will likely happen
5 on the Federal side though is that the program -- there will be
6 some Federal involvement in an oversight role. But again, we
7 don't know what it would be like. There will likely not be
8 money in the Federal budget to fund the Councils the way we run
9 them right now, with the two meetings and then the Chairs
10 meeting with the Board. That will not happen the way it is
11 right now. However, the State has, as Gary said, made a
12 commitment to incorporate the Regional Councils in some fashion
13 into the State program.

14

15 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: So there should be some type of
16 downsizing?

17

18 MS. MEEHAN: Yes. From the Federal perspective. But
19 as this Federal program goes down, the State program will go
20 up. So the end result, you know, we don't know what the end
21 result's going to be exactly, but it's going to switch from
22 Federal to State.

23

24 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you. Any questions for Rose?

25

26 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, it's like when I was on the
27 other one before this Board, we had joint meetings between Nana
28 and Bering Straits, before this became -- came on board. So
29 this is a transition stage. I understand it, but I believe
30 that the only thing for alternates is for purpose of attaining
31 a quorum and that's all I'm concerned about.

32

33 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

34

35 MR. MENDENHALL: And also to conduct business after
36 great expense of having Staff and agency meetings.

37

38 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: So I like Grace's suggestion that
39 we leave the proposal as we had it before, and I don't see any
40 change. If that's okay with the Council; continue as we've
41 been going?

42

43 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, in regards to the charter, I
44 think it would be good for the Council to send -- or develop
45 some motion to -- because these will be renewed in 1998 and the
46 Board is going to take action on alternates, then you may wish
47 to consider, I think, Region 7, this is -- maybe language that
48 says, we recommend two alternates, one from Unit 22(A) -- or
49 just one from the northern region and one from the southern

50 region of the Bering -- Seward Peninsula. You know, just

0133

1 to.....

2

3 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Then send out a list to take care of
4 these here before it's final say?

5

6 MR. EDENSHAW: No, no. That will be taken care of in
7 January once the nominations process starts. But in terms of
8 the charters, the charters will be renewed in 1998, and so
9 forth. And so for the Council to recommend that inclusion of
10 language in your charter saying that we.....

11

12 MS. CROSS: Under membership?

13

14 MR. EDENSHAW:have alternates.

15

16 MS. CROSS: Under membership?

17

18 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes. And also if the Council feels --
19 if you look under your charter on the second page, on the
20 bottom of that page is vacancy and then on top of the page --
21 on top of the page is vacancy, so at the Council's wish I would
22 like to -- when I get back to Anchorage to white out one of
23 those because.....

24

25 MR. MENDENHALL: I so move that we have additional to
26 number nine on charter for alternates as you folks have
27 recommended.

28

29 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Motion by Perry. Do I hear a
30 second.

31

32 MS. CROSS: I second it.

33

34 MR. SEETOT: Seconded.

35

36 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Second by Elmer. All in favor
37 say.....

38

39 MS. CROSS: Question.

40

41 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK:aye.

42

43 IN UNISON: Aye.

44

45 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Opposed no.

46

47 (No opposing responses)

48

49 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Motion carried to add to the

50 charter.

0134

1 MR. EDENSHAW: Then Mr. Chair, moving on to number six,
2 Rosa said she was going to discuss -- excuse me, go ahead.

3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm taking the notes, I just wanted to
5 clarify, was that three alternates total? Still a one at-large
6 or not?

7
8 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: No, it was -- there's two.

9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: Two?

11
12 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Two alternates.

13
14 MS. ARMSTRONG: One from (A) and (B) or -- or (A) or
15 (B) and one from (D) or (E)?

16
17 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Yes. (A) and (B) and.....

18
19 MS. ARMSTRONG: So just two?

20
21 MS. CROSS: As it was originally proposed.

22
23 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: The Chair will recognize Rosa.

24
25 MS. MEEHAN: Rosa Meehan, Office of Subsistence
26 Management. One of the issues that this Council has brought up
27 in the past had to do with the structure of the Federal Board.
28 And that issue has been raised. It was initially raised when
29 they did the EIS for the program, establishing the program back
30 in 1989. And at that time, several different options for
31 structures of the Federal Board were evaluated within the EIS,
32 and out of that evaluation came the Board structure being ahead
33 of all the Federal land management agencies, plus the Bureau of
34 Indian Affairs. Subsequently, a Native representative was
35 appointed as the head of the Federal Subsistence Board, the
36 Chair of the Federal Subsistence Board, and that's Mitch
37 Demientieff.

38
39 Recently in the 1995 annual report, both this Council --
40 I'm sorry, let me back up, I'm under Tab H in your books.

41
42 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, we were on that. We're not even
43 to number six, where is she?

44
45 MS. MEEHAN: Aren't we on restructuring?

46
47 MR. MENDENHALL: Point of understanding, we're on this
48 section here -- Regional Council charters and you're jumping
49 ahead of us on the agenda.

0135

1 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I thought we were done with
2 Regional Council charter. Now, we're.....

3
4 MR. MENDENHALL: I thought she was contesting it.

5
6 MS. MEEHAN: No. New agenda item, Federal Board
7 restructuring. So under Tab H, and then we've got it --
8 there's a briefing statement in here and what I'll do is jut
9 basically cover the information in this briefing statement and
10 then I'll solicit your input on the options presented.

11
12 So in 1995, this Council and the Northwest Arctic
13 Council, your neighbors to the North, recommended that the
14 Federal Board be composed of the Chairs of all 10 Regional
15 Councils. This request was made again between a meeting of the
16 Council Chairs and the Federal Subsistence Board in the
17 November 1996 Board/Council Chair session. The issue was kept
18 alive and at the spring Board/Chair meeting, a commitment was
19 made by Dave Allen, who's head of the Fish and Wildlife
20 Service, to evaluate the structure of the Federal Subsistence
21 Board. And at that time he noted that the Board was
22 established when the program was first begun and essentially we
23 hadn't had the -- we didn't know what was going to happen with
24 the program. Well, since then, the program has been running
25 for seven years and so it's a good time to evaluate how the
26 program is setup and how the Board is structured. And so they
27 established a task force to look into the structure of the
28 Board and come up with recommendations, whether to change the
29 Board, keep it the same way and if change it, then what kind of
30 options were available.

31
32 At that time, this is last April, April 1997, the
33 Regional Council Chairs, modified the request from changing the
34 Federal Subsistence Board from its current structure, the
35 original request from the Chairs had been to change it to the
36 heads of all the Regional Advisory Councils, well, the Chairs
37 changed that recommendation to having one of the Regional
38 Council Chairs or a subsistence user added to the current Board
39 structure. Okay, I'm on the bottom of that page.

40
41 So a task force was established. They had a
42 recommendation to add one person from the Regional Council
43 Chairs to the Board. And the task force met this June to look
44 at various options. And there's two really important
45 constraints that the task force were being very careful in how
46 they structured options. One of them was the delegation of
47 authority, and this is something that's very important to Mitch
48 Demientieff, in particular, was very keen on this, the issue
49 is, that he did not want to see the Federal Subsistence Board

50 lose any of its regulatory authority. Right now, the Federal

0136

1 Subsistence Board has the authority to set regulations. so
2 what it means is, you as a Council make recommendations to the
3 Board, participate in that discussion, and then the Board can
4 change the regulations. Okay, Mitch was very clear that he did
5 not want to see the Board lose that authority. Lose the
6 ability to change regulations. If the Board loses it, then
7 that decision making authority would go to Washington, D.C.,
8 okay, so Mitch was very clear that he wanted that to stay with
9 the Board.

10

11 The second issue had to do with the establishment with
12 new advisory committees. If the Board was replaced by a
13 completely new body, it would be a new type of advisory
14 committee. And under Federal law, there is currently a
15 prohibition on establishing new advisory committees. It's a
16 legal constraint to setting up a new type of a group or a body
17 that would provide advice to the Federal government, and so
18 that's another constraint. It's a legal type of a constraint,
19 but it's one that has to be considered in making this type of
20 decision.

21

22 Given these constraints, this task force, which just to
23 let you know who was on it, it included, Mitch Demientieff,
24 Bill Thomas from Southeast Regional Council, Jim Caplan from
25 the Forest Service and Dave Allen from the Fish and Wildlife
26 Service. When they looked at those two constraints and took
27 into account the recommendation that came from the Regional
28 Council Chairs, which had changed to including an additional
29 person on the existing Board, the task force identified three
30 options that would work within these constraints.

31

32 One option is to retain the existing Board as it stands
33 right now, which is the head of the Federal land managing
34 agencies, plus the Bureau of Indian Affairs, plus Mitch
35 Demientieff, who is a Native representative who is designated
36 as the Chair of the Board. The second option is the existing
37 Board, plus at least one Regional Council Chair nominated by
38 the Regional Councils. That's the option that the Regional
39 Council Chairs voted for in April. The third option is the
40 existing Board, plus one subsistence user, plus on State
41 representative nominated by the Governor and appointed by the
42 Secretary of the Interior. So those are the three options that
43 would meet the legal constraints that when the task force
44 started looking into, they found those constraints.

45

46 And so what we'd like from you now is any input you
47 have, opinions, observations, concerns about those options as
48 they're laid out. And if you'd like, I can go through the way
49 those would be structured a little bit. Just to share a couple

50 of comments on it, the existing Board, a reason for keeping the

0137

1 existing Board is that it does retain the authority to make
2 regulations. It keeps the decision making here in Alaska, here
3 where you have direct access to it. A criticism, however, of
4 the Board as it stands right now is that the people who sit on
5 the Board are not subsistence users. And in partial response
6 to that criticism, the Secretary of Interior has appointed a
7 Native Chair of the Board, Mitch Demientieff. The second
8 alternative, which is the existing Board, plus on Regional
9 Council Chair is -- a concern about that is that that Board,
10 the regulatory capability of that Board is subject to
11 challenge. I mean we don't know, but it's a potential that
12 that structure could be challenged. A plus to that is that it
13 would incorporate into the Board, greater perspective on
14 traditional subsistence use and traditional knowledge by having
15 a Regional Council Chair as part of the Board. The third
16 alternative, to have the Board include a subsistence user and a
17 member from the State, a benefit to that is that it will have
18 representatives from all of the land managing entities in the
19 State -- large land managing entities in the State, including
20 the State of Alaska, as well as heads of the Federal agencies.
21 The subsistence user would add the perspective of traditional
22 use and knowledge and the State representative would be able to
23 represent State interests. It has the same issue of that
24 structure is subject to challenge to the regulatory authority
25 of the Board as the second option has.

26
27 The other alternate Board structures that were
28 considered in all of this did include the suggestion of all 10
29 Regional Council Chairs. The major concern with that
30 suggestion is that the Board would not retain its regulatory
31 authority. If the Board was composed of the 10 Regional
32 Advisory Council Chairs, they would not have the authority to
33 change regulations the way the Board does now. They would
34 become an advisory committee that would be sending advice back
35 to Washington. There's a further constraint that right now
36 there's a prohibition in establishing new advisory committees.
37 So there's some serious problems with trying to implement that
38 option.

39
40 MR. EDENSHAW: Rosa, if that were to occur, who would
41 set regulations if the Board -- you know, I'm just throwing
42 that out, who would set those regs?

43
44 MS. MEEHAN: The Secretary of Interior.

45
46 MR. EDENSHAW: The Secretary of Interior.

47
48 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah. Right now the authority to change
49 regulations is delegated -- it's given by the Secretary of

50 Interior to the Federal Subsistence Board, and so they have the

0138

1 authority to set regulations. If the Board was composed of the
2 10 Regional Council Chairs, the Secretary could not delegate
3 that authority to them. He just can't do that. He would have
4 to keep that authority himself, listen to the advice from the
5 10 Chairs, but he couldn't give them the authority to make
6 those changes.

7
8 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: What is your recommendation?
9

10 MS. MEEHAN: What I'm looking for is the recommendation
11 from the Council. There's three options that the task force
12 feel could be pursued. One is to maintain the existing Board.
13 The second would be to add a representative from the Regional
14 Advisory Council Chairs to the Board. The third would be to
15 add a representative from the Regional Advisory Council Board
16 and a representative from the State. So it's keep the
17 existing, add one Chair or add one Chair plus a State
18 representative.

19
20 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Discussion from the Council?
21

22 MS. CROSS: I have a question. The subsistence user,
23 what is the definition of that? Is that somebody from the
24 Regional Advisory Council or is it somebody -- anybody can
25 apply to be on the Federal Subsistence Board? Is there a
26 definition for the subsistence user?

27
28 MS. MEEHAN: There isn't. And that would be the type
29 of thing that we would look for, your suggestions on.
30

31 MR. MENDENHALL: I would like to go with the number
32 one, existing Board. It hasn't proven to be broken yet, it
33 tends to be working and I'd like to have confidence in the
34 people that are on existing Board. We've already gone through
35 the process of putting our people on there and a representative
36 of the region.

37
38 MS. CROSS: I've got another question. In 1995, what
39 was the rationale for changing the Federal Subsistence Board to
40 Chairs?
41

42 MS. MEEHAN: The concern about the existing Board was
43 that the existing Board -- that the Board members are not
44 sufficiently aware of or sensitive to subsistence user needs.
45 And that the Board members orientation towards scientific
46 knowledge leads them to overlook the contributions of
47 traditional environmental knowledge. These are criticisms that
48 had been brought up by the regional Chairs about the Board.
49

MS. CROSS: This was in 1995?

0139

1 MS. MEEHAN: This is in 1995. And those criticisms are
2 still expressed today; there's that type of concern.

3
4 MR. BUCK: Mr. Chair.

5
6 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Buck.

7
8 MR. BUCK: Yes. I agree with Perry to go along with
9 the existing Board. But I also have a concern of the Federal
10 Subsistence Board as it is. I'm in favor of having the Chairs
11 of the Regional Board as the Board. But I believe that the
12 process should be started to somehow get the Chairs of each of
13 the Regional Councils and have them on the Board, but get it
14 started where they can get the authority to make regulations.
15 It would probably take a long time, we'd have to change the --
16 look at changing the Federal law. But it might take three or
17 four years, but I think we should go towards that direction.
18 Having the Regional Council Chairs as the Federal Subsistence
19 Board later on in the future, three or four years from now if
20 that's what it takes.

21
22 But as of now, I would be satisfied with the existing
23 Board.

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL: After hearing my comment and hearing
26 yours, apparently there seems to be something broken with the
27 existing Board, so maybe number two might be to insure
28 subsistence using it on the Board. Apparently there's some
29 discrepancies of the scientific world and the subsistence world
30 conflicting here. But I have trust in the existing Board
31 because it comes from the best of all the regions.

32
33 MS. CROSS: You're talking about the Federal
34 Subsistence Board, right?

35
36 MR. MENDENHALL: Yes.

37
38 MS. CROSS: What I think it lacks is a subsistence
39 user, that's my only concern as it exists now.

40
41 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Olanna.

42
43 MR. OLANNA: Mr. Chairman, having experienced attending
44 these Federal Subsistence Board proceedings, I'm impressed with
45 the current Federal Subsistence Board. But alternative two
46 would definitely bring in some insight from a subsistence user
47 that's appointed by the people. And I'd feel more comfortable
48 if we had one Chair, that is, one Regional Chair on the Federal
49 Subsistence Board. Because it's been stated before where the

50 State -- not the State, but the current Board has these fine

0140

1 people that are currently looking after the subsistence
2 interests of our people, but I think it would be an asset to
3 include one Regional Chairman because the Regional Chairman are
4 mainly selected by the people that are affected by Federal
5 regulations.

6
7 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I'm inclined to go number three
8 because the current trend in -- that we're going to have to
9 sooner or later we're going to have to recognize the State and
10 include the State on the Board. But is the State going to
11 recognize subsistence rural preference; that's the question.

12
13 MR. MENDENHALL: Against having the State
14 representative on there. After the way they neglected already
15 at-large in their own districts and the way that they looked at
16 subsistence this year, I don't see any good report card for
17 having a State representative on board. I would go with number
18 two then. Apparently there's some strong feelings in the State
19 from rural areas, I think maybe to insure that we have a rural
20 subsistence user on this Board. I just came on board and from
21 what I hear now, maybe the existing Board does need a little
22 help from -- not that it's broken, it just needs help.

23
24 MS. CROSS: Mr. Chair, I agree with Perry Mendenhall.
25 I think one reason is because the Chair has consulted with, you
26 know, their Councils and came up with this recommendation that
27 the number two should -- is kind of like all of the -- all of
28 the RAC's have some sort of consensus on it.

29
30 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Any other comments from the
31 Council?

32
33 MR. MENDENHALL: I would make a motion to go with
34 number two on this, supporting number two from this Council.

35
36 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Mendenhall moved to adopt the
37 existing Board with one Regional Council Chair nominated by the
38 Regional Council Chairs and appointed by the Secretary of
39 Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture.
40 Do I hear a second?

41
42 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Second.

43
44 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Second by Fred Katchatag.
45 Question. All in favor say aye.

46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Those opposed no.

0141

1 (No opposing responses)

2

3 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you.

4

5 MS. MEEHAN: Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you, Rose. Item 7, State
8 memorandum of agreement.

9

10 MR. GERHARD: Good morning, Mr. Chair and members of
11 the Council, I'm Bob Gerhard with National Park Service. And I
12 was going to brief you on this next item, it's Item 7 in your
13 agenda which is Tab I. This is just an informational or
14 briefing for you. I don't think there's any action necessary
15 at this time, but it's to fill you in on what's been going on
16 with the efforts to establish a memorandum of agreement between
17 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Federal
18 Subsistence Program.

19

20 A little background. Ever since the Federal government
21 got into this business in 1990, there have been discussions
22 about the need for some kind of a formal agreement between the
23 Federal government and the Department of Fish and Game. All of
24 the Federal land managing agencies, Bureau of Land Management,
25 National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and Forest
26 Service already have memorandum of agreement. Each agency has
27 an individual agreement with the Fish and Game, but the State
28 especially feels that there's a need for another agreement
29 between the Federal Subsistence Board and the State. So
30 there's been discussions going on for a number of years. Last
31 year the Department of Fish and Game wrote another letter to
32 the Federal government proposing the development of a
33 memorandum of agreement. And in that letter, the State
34 mentioned four things they thought should be included. One was
35 improved interaction between the State and the Federal
36 regulatory systems and improved public involvement in the
37 regulatory processes. The second, increased involvement by the
38 State in the Federal regulatory process. Third, appropriate
39 compensation for State assistance to the Federal subsistence
40 program. And four, development of a general coordination plan
41 that would guide the development of area specific subsistence
42 resource management plans.

43

44 As a result of that letter, the Federal Subsistence
45 Board directed Staff to meet with the State and discuss this
46 issue further. As a result of that, a working group has been
47 setup. That group consists of four members from the State, one
48 representing each of the divisions of subsistence, wildlife
49 conservation, commercial fisheries and sport fish, and four

50 Federal members, there's three Staff Committee members

0142

1 representing the Forest Service, the National Park Service and
2 the Bureau of Land Management, and one member from the Fish and
3 Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence Management. That group
4 of eight folks met once this year on July 29th, and I think
5 they had scheduled a second meeting in September, but that
6 meeting was postponed. So so far they've only met once and
7 that meeting was pretty much just establishing some basic
8 understanding and ground rules of what they wanted to move
9 forward with.

10
11 And in that working group they came up with a number of
12 additional items or other action items to be looked at, and
13 those are listed on the bullet items on the second page of your
14 -- the action items they identified were, closer alignment of
15 State and Federal proposal cycles to improve coordination.
16 Closer coordination of subsistence resource surveys and studies
17 and improved information exchange between the agencies. Fish
18 and Game advisory committee representation at Regional Council
19 meetings. Joint production of regulation booklets and other
20 public informational material. Increased Fish and Game
21 participation in the preparation and/or review of proposal
22 analysis to ensure technical information is complete and
23 appropriately presented. The involvement of ADF&G
24 representatives at Staff Committee meetings to ensure
25 information from the State used in analysis is complete and
26 accurately characterized. And finally, development of a
27 State/Federal coordination plan that will guide joint
28 subsistence management planning efforts.

29
30 This group will be meeting again. I don't know when
31 the next meeting is scheduled, but there's plans to continue
32 this process. I think it's probably evidence that this won't
33 be happening real fast, people are wondering what's happening
34 with State/Federal coordination now and who's going to be
35 managing subsistence, but this process will continue. And the
36 Regional Councils will be kept informed as progress goes.
37 Nothing is going to be finalized without running it through the
38 Regional Councils first. And this briefing mentions, the last
39 thing it says is, hope that some draft products will be ready
40 for Regional Council review at the winter Council meetings. So
41 this may be on your agenda again in the winter meetings.

42
43 The goal of all this is just simply to improve
44 coordination between the State and Federal programs. You'll
45 notice a large number of State people here at this meeting.
46 It's my understanding that the State and Federal agencies here
47 in Nome work quite well together, and it's hoped that an
48 agreement like this, if it ever gets finalized, will just help
49 to facilitate and improve that kind of cooperation. So that's

50 the intent of this whole process.

0143

1 Are there any questions?

2

3 MS. CROSS: I have one. What does the word, review,
4 mean?

5

6 MR. GERHARD: Excuse me, the word?

7

8 MS. CROSS: The last sentence, for Regional Council
9 review, the review means what? Comments? Recommendations?
10 Scrutiny?

11

12 MR. GERHARD: Exactly. As I said I don't think this
13 agreement -- it could not be finalized without having the
14 Regional Councils have a chance to look at what it will say and
15 a chance to comment on it and make recommendations for changes
16 and improvements in it.

17

18 MS. CROSS: Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Any other questions from the
21 Council? If not, thank you.

22

23 MR. GERHARD: Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I have a little problem remembering
26 names. Moving along to our next item, which is, Item 8,
27 regulatory year schedule, Tab J. Mr. Edenshaw or Rosa Meehan.

28

29 MS. MEEHAN: Rosa Meehan, Office of Subsistence
30 Management. This is a very short agenda item, which is good
31 since we're getting to the end. Simply what we'd like to ask
32 for your input on has to do with scheduling of the winter
33 meetings. And basically the situation that we find in our
34 office in trying to present, prepare and put together the
35 proposal analysis that we take to you at the winter meetings,
36 we find that we have a very short time period to do that
37 because the proposals come in at the end of October and then by
38 January, we're already starting some of the winter meetings for
39 the Councils, and what we're finding is that that's simply not
40 enough time to do a good job preparing the proposal analysis
41 for the Council. So we've looked at the regulatory -- at the
42 schedule, the whole scheduling of this and have found that if
43 we could move the winter meetings, a month later essentially,
44 it would give us additional time to prepare the proposals so we
45 could do a better job for your Council members.

46

47 It has an implication that if we have later winter
48 meetings, then the spring Board meeting would also be later.
49 Now, the spring Board meeting effects the Regional Council

50 Chair, not the rest of the members necessarily, but there is

0144

1 that implication in changing the schedule. And so simply, what
2 we're asking you is if it would be acceptable to you as Council
3 members to have the winter Council meeting start in the middle
4 of February and run through the end of March, rather than, the
5 current schedule which starts the beginning -- well, the latter
6 part of January and ends at the end of February. So basically,
7 what the question is, could you schedule a successful meeting
8 one month later for the winter meeting than right now?

9
10 MR. SEETOT: Comment on the late winter meeting would
11 be that it would probably conflict with some subsistence
12 activities in the northern region. And also we -- would our
13 thoughts really be on the meeting, you know, than on the month
14 of Iditarod, which is commonly known as Iditarod Sled Dog
15 Month, you know. There's a lot of activities during that
16 month. I think that it would kind of keep us from really
17 concentrating on, you know, issues that related to subsistence
18 management. And that's just my opinion on that.

19
20 MS. MEEHAN: Um-hum. The actual meeting though, just
21 to focus on the calendar, the alternate schedule would be from
22 February 16th to March 20th. And so given that length of
23 window, could you select a meeting time in there that would
24 avoid those conflicts?

25
26 MR. SEETOT: I would prefer we meet, you know, before
27 the start of the Iditarod anyway. Because I think
28 January/February, to me anyway, subsistence activities are kind
29 of at limbo because of dark days and cold winter days.

30
31 MS. MEEHAN: The alternate schedule does have the last
32 two weeks of February.

33
34 MR. SEETOT: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

35
36 MS. MEEHAN: So you could still schedule a meeting in
37 February.

38
39 MR. SEETOT: That would be my opinion anyway.

40
41 MS. MEEHAN: So if that would work for you.

42
43 MR. SEETOT: That would work for me.

44
45 MS. MEEHAN: I mean I'm not trying to push, I'm just
46 pointing it out.

47
48 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: So would Council feel comfortable
49 with between February 22 and 28?

0145

1 MR. MENDENHALL: I have no problem with any changes you
2 may have.

3
4 MS. CROSS: As long as our meetings are scheduled.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Edenshaw.

7
8 MS. CROSS: Sorry.

9
10 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Go ahead.

11
12 MS. CROSS: As long as our meetings are scheduled
13 before Iditarod.

14
15 MS. MEEHAN: Okay.

16
17 MS. CROSS: I mean Nome should be given some sort of
18 preference for that. Because number one, there will be no
19 hotel rooms for any of you during Iditarod time.

20
21 MS. MEEHAN: Oh, absolutely, yes.

22
23 MS. CROSS: So you'll really have to take that into
24 consideration.

25
26 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Edenshaw.

27
28 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, you may note on the bottom,
29 the Chair for the Regional Advisory Council here would also
30 have to take into consideration the Board -- the Board meeting
31 will be pushed back to May 4th to the 8th also. And the Chair
32 or alternate Chair will need to attend the meeting in
33 Anchorage.

34
35 MR. SEETOT: So you're referring to the Federal
36 Subsistence Board when you say the Board.....

37
38 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

39
40 MR. SEETOT: Okay.

41
42 MR. EDENSHAW: If you approve the alternate scheduled,
43 that Board meeting will be pushed back to May.

44
45 MR. KATCHATAG SR: I have no problem with February
46 meetings.

47
48 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Between February 22 and 28th.

49

MS. MEEHAN: I comment on that. One thing if -- we are

0146

1 going to ask you to go ahead and schedule a meeting in both of
2 the time windows. If you pick that week of February --
3 somewhere between February 22nd and 28th, that fits within both
4 schedules. So whatever schedule the program decides to choose,
5 your meeting will stay the same, because there's overlap in
6 those two schedules.

7

8 MR. MENDENHALL: So we're looking at the last week of
9 February?

10

11 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: It looks like if the Council feels
12 comfortable with that.

13

14 MR. KATCHATAG SR: We should have it in weekdays
15 instead of weekends.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Would someone like to make a
18 suggestion that we hold it to February 22 -- or 23, 24, 25 and
19 those dates.

20

21 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Yeah.

22

23 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Do we need a motion on it or just
24 a.....

25

26 MR. EDENSHAW: Is that the current window?

27

28 MS. CROSS: No. We're looking at alternate dates.

29

30 MR. EDENSHAW: Oh.

31

32 MR. KATCHATAG SR: 23rd to.....

33

34 MR. EDENSHAW: The alternates, and then what about.....

35

36 MS. MEEHAN: That works for both schedules.

37

38 MR. EDENSHAW: For both schedules?

39

40 MS. MEEHAN: Yeah.

41

42 MR. MENDENHALL: Yes.

43

44 MS. CROSS: I have another concern, you know, the
45 airline schedules on Sundays are terrible. Maybe we should
46 leave a Monday open and do it kind of like in the middle of the
47 week.

48

49 MR. MENDENHALL: Right.

0147

1 MS. CROSS: Especially in February, the weather is not
2 very good. Some people might not come in on a Sunday because
3 there are less planes that fly to villages.

4
5 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: So we'll leave that Monday to
6 travel, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

7
8 MS. CROSS: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

9
10 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: 24, 25 and 26.

11
12 MR. MENDENHALL: So moved.

13
14 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Motion by Perry to schedule our
15 next winter meeting to February 24, 25, 26.

16
17 MR. BUCK: Second.

18
19 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Seconded by Mr. Buck. Call for the
20 question.

21
22 MR. KATCHATAG SR: What are the dates?

23
24 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Pardon?

25
26 MR. KATCHATAG SR: What's your date on this schedule?

27
28 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: February 24, 25 and 26.

29
30 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Okay.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: There's a call for the question at
33 this time?

34
35 MR. MENDENHALL: Question.

36
37 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Questions's been called, all in
38 favor say aye.

39
40 (No opposing responses)

41
42 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Those opposed no.

43
44 (No opposing responses)

45
46 MS. MEEHAN: I thank you for your input. We will get
47 back to you with what schedule we'll be using but your meeting
48 should be fine. The only challenge that we've got when we get
49 back to the office is we have to make sure that this Council's

50 meeting is not scheduled at the same time as the North Slope

0148

1 meeting or the Northwest meeting, because we have the same
2 Staff that covers those meetings.

3

4 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

5

6 MS. MEEHAN: And so that's just something we have to
7 check when we go home and line everybody up. But barring any
8 conflicts there, we will get back to you with what the schedule
9 is and confirmation on the dates.

10

11 MR. KATCHATAG SR: You can work with our coordinator.

12

13 MS. MEEHAN: We're going to make him work.

14

15 MS. CROSS: I would encourage you to remember no hotels
16 in Nome during Iditarod time.

17

18 MS. MEEHAN: Absolutely.

19

20 MS. CROSS: That should be a great factor for you guys
21 unless you want to stay in a tent somewhere. We could make you
22 igloos.

23

24 MR. MENDENHALL: It seems like we're accommodating
25 Staff.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you, Ms. Meehan.

28

29 MS. MEEHAN: Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Next item, draft review of National
32 Park Service regulation and subsistence law.

33

34 MS. CROSS: Mr. Chair, could I ask for a break.

35

36 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Before we go I'll call for a break,
37 five minutes.

38

39 (Off record)

40 (On record)

41

42 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: I'll call the meeting to order.
43 Order please. We're on to our next item which is draft review,
44 National Park Service regulation and subsistence law. Who's
45 going to cover that?

46

47 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, I included that because of
48 our information meeting we had on Tuesday, that was for the
49 purposes of the record, seeing's our Reporter is here in case

50 the Regional Council had any input they wished to have on

0149

1 record from the presentation that Bob Gerhard from Park Service
2 gave on Tuesday. So that was the sole purpose of any
3 information the Council wished to include in those regulations
4 that we went over on Tuesday.

5
6 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: The next item is, need replacement
7 for our dear friend Edgar Ningeulook. We have a resolution by
8 Kawerak to recommending that we consider Mr. Johnson Eningowuk,
9 Mr. Jake Olanna.

10
11 MR. OLANNA: Jack Olanna, Kawerak. Mr. Chairman, you
12 have in front of you a resolution and I'll read it for the
13 record. It's Kawerak, Inc., Kawerak Resolution 97-08 and
14 titled Vacancy to the Seward Peninsula Federal Subsistence
15 Regional Advisory Committee recommendation by Kawerak Natural
16 Resources Committee.

17
18 Whereas, the vacancy left by the passing of Shishmaref
19 representative Edgar Ningeulook is open and whereas, the
20 Federal Subsistence Staff has decided to fill the vacancy with
21 another person from Koyuk, and whereas, appointment would take
22 away representation from Shishmaref and Wales, who are mostly
23 and closely impacted by the Bering Land Bridge Preserve and
24 whereas, the Native village of Shishmaref has advertised the
25 position and have endorsed the appointment of Johnson
26 Eningowuk, so applicant from Shishmaref, Alaska.

27
28 Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Kawerak Board
29 of Directors supports Johnson Eningowuk to fill the vacancy for
30 more equal representation to the Bering Strait Federal
31 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council as recommend by the
32 Shishmaref IRA Council. Passed this date, 17th of September
33 1997 at the duly convened meeting of the Kawerak Board, signed
34 Robert Keith, Chairman, Lucy Ningeulook, Secretary.

35
36 We had a long discussion about this at our last Natural
37 Resources Committee meeting and I drafted this resolution after
38 that meeting. And seeing that it was that important, the
39 Kawerak Board, themselves, decided to pass this resolution
40 because Edgar was a representative that came from my hometown,
41 Shishmaref. And seeings that most of the Bering Land Bridge is
42 surrounding Shishmaref and Wales, we felt that it was very
43 important that we have equal representation and that losing
44 that seat to someone from another region was kind of unfair.
45 So that's why we came up with this resolution and I'm hoping
46 you, as a committee, could draft a similar resolution to the
47 Federal Subsistence Board, which I understand will be meeting
48 tomorrow.

49

0150

1 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Any comments from the Council,
2 questions?

3
4 MR. MENDENHALL: We would like to concur with this
5 resolution from this Council and make that a form of a motion
6 to endorse this wish for 22(E), since we don't have anybody
7 from 22(E) on there.

8
9 MR. SEETOT: I second the motion.

10
11 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Motion by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded
12 by Mr. Seetot. Call for the question.

13
14 MS. CROSS: Question.

15
16 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Question's been called, all in
17 favor say aye.

18
19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20
21 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Those opposed no.

22
23 (No opposing responses)

24
25 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Okay.

26
27 MR. MENDENHALL: The Chair forgot to mention 22(E),
28 when you go back, or what the subdistrict is.

29
30 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: The Chair will direct Mr. Edenshaw
31 to draft that resolution and have the Chair sign it. Thank
32 you.

33
34 MR. OLANNA: I encourage you to fax it so they get it
35 tomorrow. Thank you.

36
37 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you, Mr. Olanna. Now, time
38 and place for our next meeting which we didn't discuss earlier.
39 What's the Council's wishes, any suggestions?

40
41 MS. CROSS: We're kind of looking for the place.

42
43 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Yes.

44
45 MR. MENDENHALL: Let's go to Shishmaref.

46
47 MR. KATCHATAG SR: I wanted to go to Anchorage.

48
49 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Ms. Meehan, do you have anything

50 that you want to add?

0151

1 MS. MEEHAN: Well, just.....

2

3 COURT REPORTER: Cliff, give her the microphone.

4

5 MS. MEEHAN: Rosa Meehan, Office of Subsistence
6 Management. I'd just remind the Council that the last three
7 meetings you had one here in Nome and we went up to Teller for
8 a half a day. And then we were up in Unalakleet and then now
9 we're back in Nome. And so you might want to consider where
10 you had meetings in terms of setting your next one.

11

12 MR. MENDENHALL: I was vying for Diomede, but nobody
13 wanted to go to Diomede.

14

15 MS. MEEHAN: We'd be logistically challenged.

16

17 MR. OLANNA: Mr. Chairman, Jack Olanna Kawerak.

18

19 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Olanna.

20

21 MR. OLANNA: I heard Anchorage. At the last time that
22 the Regional Advisory met in Anchorage there were a lot of
23 people that were upset because this Board deals with people in
24 this region. And we felt that it's only proper that you meet
25 within this region's setting. Thank you.

26

27 MR. KATCHATAG SR: We went to Teller from here last
28 year and there was hardly anybody from Teller attending our
29 meeting. And when you go out to these rural areas, it's not
30 that I'm against the Native people, but it's kind of hard to
31 find places to sleep, and then you got to walk a long ways
32 every time. You know, when you're 77 years old, you're not
33 walking anymore. I'd rather ride than to walk. If I was a
34 younger man, I would go along with you, but you know, when you
35 get this old, them things living in a rural area is not too
36 easy anymore, especially when you have to walk, it's so easy to
37 fall down. You can have it in rural Alaska, but I'll ask for
38 an excused from the meeting.

39

40 MS. MEEHAN: I'd also share with the Council that I
41 wasn't there, but I understand there was a successful meeting
42 in White Mountain. That there's a nice lodge there where
43 people could stay and then also meet within the same building,
44 which would help address your concerns.

45

46 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Don't look at me. I'm not going to
47 go anywhere but to where there's a.....

48

49 MR. BUCK: The lodge in White Mountain has been closed

50 for the past week.

0152

1 MS. MEEHAN: Okay, never mind.

2
3 MR. BUCK: Okay. I don't know when it's going to open
4 again.

5
6 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Any suggestions from the Council?

7
8 MS. CROSS: I would kind of look at either 22(E) or
9 22(A), they are the most impacted by Federal lands, so either
10 Unalakleet or Shishmaref.

11
12 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Shishmaref, I understand there's a
13 disaster, the Governor made Shishmaref a disaster area.

14
15 MS. CROSS: It might not be in existence, um?

16
17 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Well, they'll not have
18 accommodations over there.

19
20 MR. MENDENHALL: Well, we don't know what condition
21 they'll be in because of their recent disaster either.

22
23 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Yeah, that's my concern.

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL: But it might be an eye-opener too, you
26 know.

27
28 MS. MEEHAN: My only concern on that would be whether
29 setting up a meeting like this would put an additional strain
30 on a community that already is dealing with significant issues.

31
32 MS. CROSS: My recommendation would go to Unalakleet
33 because there's lodging over there and there's airplanes that
34 go directly from Anchorage to Unalakleet, which would be easier
35 for the Staff. And you would not need to get a ride.

36
37 MR. BUCK: I'd support Fred's Anchorage, it'd be easier
38 for the Staff.

39
40 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: So which will it be, Anchorage or
41 Unalakleet?

42
43 MS. CROSS: Maybe we should just put it to a vote.

44
45 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Anchorage, raise your hand. So
46 Anchorage. Unalakleet. Anyone else? Three Anchorage.

47
48 MS. CROSS: Two Unalakleet.

49

CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Two Unalakleet. So it's Anchorage

0153

1 next meeting at 9:00 a.m. Okay, so if that's all right with
2 the Council, we'll go ahead with Anchorage for our next meeting
3 place. And I had election of officers, but I'm going to table
4 this until our next meeting because three seats are missing,
5 our Chair, Mr. Garnie and we've already made a recommendation
6 that we're going to recommend Mr. Ningaulook. So I will
7 entertain a motion to table the election of officers until our
8 next meeting.

9
10 MR. BUCK: So moved.

11
12 MR. KATCHATAG SR: (Motioned with finger)

13
14 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Motion by Mr. Buck to table our
15 election of officers until next meeting. Second by Mr.
16 Katchatag.

17
18 MS. CROSS: There was no second.

19
20 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Um?

21
22 MS. CROSS: There was no second to the motion.

23
24 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Who?

25
26 MS. CROSS: We need a second.

27
28 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr.....

29
30 MS. CROSS: Oh, he did.

31
32 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK:Mr. Katchatag. Call for
33 question.

34
35 MR. KATCHATAG SR: Question.

36
37 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Question's been called, all in
38 favor say aye.

39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41
42 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Those opposed no.

43
44 (No opposing responses)

45
46 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Motion carries. Anything else you
47 want to -- I'd like to recognize the public for now before we
48 end our meeting, anybody? Yes, please state your name for the
49 record.

0154

1 MR. DENTON: My name's Jeff Denton. I'm with the
2 Anchorage District BLM. The question came up yesterday when we
3 were discussing the lichen work that the northern districts of
4 the BLM were doing and there was an acronym, I believe it was
5 the NRCS. That's the new name for the Soil Conservation
6 Service. Now they are the Natural Resources Conservation
7 Service. Somebody had asked that specific question, what that
8 acronym had meant yesterday and I told them I'd try to find
9 out. But the SCS is no longer the Soil Conservation Service,
10 they're now the Natural Resources Conservation Service. So to
11 whoever asked that question, just to clarify.

12
13 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Rose Fosdick.

14
15 MS. FOSDICK: Well, I couldn't let this opportunity go
16 by to say a few words. The Reindeer Herders are very
17 interested in wildlife management plans and decisions and
18 regulations and I commend you on your efforts to make sure that
19 the proposals and regulations will not be a hardship for
20 hunters in dual management systems. I'm Rose Atuk Fosdick. I
21 work for Reindeer Herder's Association of Kawerak, and we have
22 20 members in our association, 17 of them have ranges on Seward
23 Peninsula, Baldwin Peninsula and St. Lawrence Island. Of those
24 17 ranges, four ranges are within or are part of the Bering
25 Land Bridge Preserve.

26
27 We're especially interested in discussions that you're
28 having on caribou management, musk ox management, and brown
29 bear management. Eight years ago Nathan Hadley of Buckland had
30 1,200 reindeer, Doug Sheldon of Candle and Kotzebue had 1,600,
31 Rowan Henry of Koyuk had 800. Today all three herds are within
32 the Western Arctic caribou herd except for about 400 or 500
33 reindeer that are still in this area. And last winter -- that
34 was eight years ago those herds are -- those three herds are
35 now with the caribou. Last winter three herds, Grey, Manalook
36 and Carmen lost their reindeer and regained some just recently.
37 And Reindeer Herders do support caribou hunting. In fact, RHA
38 approached Fish and Game last year and asked them about an
39 emergency opening of 22(D) which did come about.

40
41 At this time there are two reindeer herders who are
42 moving their reindeer with helicopter and that is Grey and
43 Manalook, and then Carmen will be moving some of his reindeer
44 too. And these movements are based on surveillance flight
45 information that we received on whereabouts of caribou that we
46 have received from Fish and Game, National Park Service and
47 also individual reindeer herders themselves.

48
49 In regards to upcoming Board of Game meetings, a

50 proposal to open up 22(D) for year-round caribou hunting and I

0155

1 heard your discussions yesterday and you were talking about
2 that issue also. RHA did have an executive committee meeting
3 and brought that issue up and the executive committee did not
4 support that proposal in lieu of the fact that 22(C), (D) and
5 (E) can be opened by emergency regulations.

6
7 And I wanted to tell you about our involvement -- we're
8 in the planning -- we are part of the planning team for
9 development of a draft co-management plan for the Western
10 Arctic herd. We also, in regards to musk ox, RHA did sign the
11 management plan that was submitted a few years ago and we are a
12 member of the musk ox cooperators group, and we're very
13 supportive of increased harvest of musk ox. In regards to
14 brown bear management, RHA's in support of increased harvest to
15 one per year in all of 22.

16
17 I thought I would just bring some of those points up to
18 you because I heard your comments yesterday and wanted to make
19 sure you know where we stand on some of those. Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Thank you, Ms. Fosdick. Any
22 questions from the Council or comment for Rose? If not, thank
23 you, Ms. Fosdick. Anything else, Mr. Edenshaw?

24
25 MR. MENDENHALL: To the future agenda, could you have
26 comments from the Council members added to it.

27
28 MR. EDENSHAW: Right, okay. In the future, Mr.
29 Mendenhall, when I put together the draft agendas, those are
30 sent to the Regional Council members ahead of time prior to
31 finalizing that, so yes.

32
33 MR. MENDENHALL: Yeah, this is my first meeting and I
34 kind of learned a lot from all of the involvement from the
35 Staff and the State Department. And I think that subsistence
36 is going to be a very big issue this year and I feel that we
37 should not lose sight of that importance to our people and our
38 region. And I feel that there's a lot of politics -- it's
39 become more political football than it is for real subsistence
40 priorities in the State.

41
42 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Perhaps.....

43
44 MR. MENDENHALL: And our people are caught in the
45 middle.

46
47 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Perhaps for our next meeting we
48 could also invite someone from AFN, AITC and RuralCap because
49 we'll be discussing subsistence again, I'm sure. That would be

50 good to have input from other organizations. If there's

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1 nothing else.....

2

3 MR. KATCHATAG SR: I'd like to say a few words in favor
4 of your suggestion of AFN and RuralCap to be at our next
5 meeting -- to invite them.

6

7 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: And thank you for attending this
8 meeting. It's been very, very receptive and also Staff has
9 been very helpful and we'll see you again sometime in February.

10

11 MS. CROSS: Mr. Chair, I'd like to make a
12 recommendation that we acknowledge Edgar Ningeulook's
13 contribution to the Council, through his family, by presenting
14 them something from the Council. I'm not sure what, a
15 certificate or something.

16

17 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: A plaque, yeah.

18

19 MS. CROSS: A plaque or something for his outstanding
20 service with the Council.

21

22 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

23

24 MS. CROSS: And maybe Cliff can come up with something
25 that can come from the Council to his family.

26

27 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Do we need a motion or.....

28

29 MS. CROSS: I'm just making a recommendation.

30

31 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Okay.

32

33 MS. CROSS: Does the Council feel okay about it

34

35 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Yes.

36

37 MR. MENDENHALL: I second the motion.

38

39 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Well, if nothing else, I entertain
40 a motion to adjourn.

41

42 MR. KATCHATAG SR: I make a motion to adjourn.

43

44 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Mr. Katchatag, Fred Katchatag moves
45 to adjourn, second? Second?

46

47 MR. MENDENHALL: Dies for a lack of second.

48

49 MS. CROSS: Second.

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1
2 aye.

CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Second by Grace. All in favor say

3
4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5
6 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Opposed no.

7
8 MR. MENDENHALL: Aye.

9
10 (Laughter)

11
12 CHAIRMAN KATCHEAK: Meeting adjourned.

13
14 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

15
16 * * * * *

C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
) ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska and Reporter for R&R Court Reporters, Inc., do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 157 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the Seward Peninsula Regional Subsistence Advisory Council meeting taken electronically by me on the 15th day of October 1997, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. at the Nome Eskimo Community Center, Nome, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by me to the best of my knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, October 29th, 1997.

Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 11/5/98